(c) if so, by what method and by what time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) Some instances of forest fire have been reported from Uttaranchal and Himachal Pradesh. The total area affected by forest fire is reported to be 4750 ha. and 11776 ha. respectively in Uttaranchal and Himachal Pradesh. In both the States, the area affected by fire is less than 0.5% of the recorded forest area.

(b) and (c) The Ministry has already prepared a National Master Plan for forest fire control. Central assistance is available to States and Union Territories under Integrated Forest Protection Scheme which has a component of forest Fire Control and Management.

Sustainable forest management in Karnataka

3221. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has sent a proposal titled "Sustainable Forest Management in Karnataka" seeking external assistance;

(b) if so, what is the total cost of the project;

(c) whether the Ministry has approved the proposal; and

(d) if not, what is the present position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The estimated total cost of the project is rupees 780 crores.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Environment and Forests have approved the proposal in principle and it has been included in the list of projects for seeking loan under Japan Overseas Development Assistance for the financial Year 2003 package. The Japan Bank for International Cooperation has conducted 'Fact Finding' of the project during May 2003.

Food parks in Uttaranchal

†3222. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.